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MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN 07 – 02

April 9, 2002

Florida East Coast Railroad Bridge Closure

The Florida East Coast (FEC) Railroad Bridge located in downtown Jacksonville, beside the Acosta Bridge, requires emergency repairs. During this emergency repair period, the bridge will be **closed to all commercial and recreational vessel traffic**.

The bridge closure is scheduled for the following dates:

- Closed: Monday, April 22 through Friday, April 26, 2002
- Closed: Monday, April 29 through Friday, May 3, 2002

The bridge will open from Saturday, April 27 till Sunday, April 28, 2002 to allow commercial and recreational traffic to pass.

For these emergency repairs, the bridge will be locked in the down position. Navigational charts and Coast Pilot # 4 list the vertical clearance of the railroad bridge in the down position as 5 feet. However, it is highly advisable that no vessels try to pass underneath the main span due to large tidal fluctuations and strong currents in this area. A small recreational boat passageway exists underneath the bridge south of the main channel. However, the vertical clearance of this passageway is neither documented nor confirmed.

The FEC bridge tender may be reached via VHF Channel 9 to confirm bridge opening times. If you have any questions, concerns, or if you would like additional information, please contact the Florida East Coast Railroad Bridge representative, Mr. Wayne Russell, at (904) 826-2346.

M. M. ROSECRANS Captain of the Port Jacksonville, Florida